

## *The Wonder Of Creation*

David Weaks

The scriptures remind us to be in awe of our Creator and His mighty power. And often times we are told to look at the smallest of things to be reminded of Him. We should never forget the wonder of creation.

In one of the most memorable texts in the Bible, God tells us to be diligent and hard working. To do so, He employed the gentle reminder to look at the lowly ant, who despite its diminutive size and its seeming lack of importance in the world's web of life, presents us an indelible example of hard work and industry.

*"Go to the ant, you sluggard!  
Consider her ways and be wise,  
Which, having no captain, Overseer or ruler,  
Provides her supplies in the summer,  
And gathers her food in the harvest.  
How long will you slumber, O sluggard?  
When will you rise from your sleep?  
A little sleep, a little slumber,  
A little folding of the hands to sleep-  
So shall your poverty come on you like a prowler,  
And your need like an armed man."*

(Proverbs 6:6-11)

### **Church of Christ**

306 E. Jackson St.,  
West Columbia, Texas 77486  
Phone: (979) 538-2175

**Visit Our Website For Free Bible Study**

**Material:**

[Http://www.westcolumbiatxcoc.com](http://www.westcolumbiatxcoc.com)

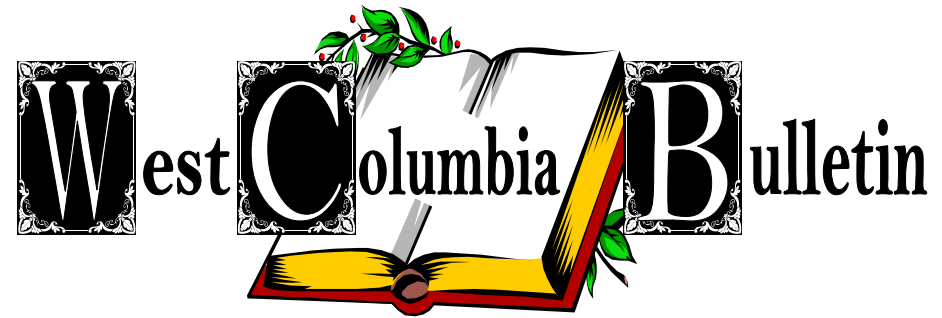
### **Schedule Of Services...**

#### **Sunday:**

Bible Classes 9:00 a.m.  
Worship 9:50 a.m.  
Worship 6:00 p.m.

#### **Wednesday:**

Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.



September 13, 2020

## *I Remember A Time*

David Weaks

**I** remember a time not many years ago when Christians stood around after services and talked about the days sermons and Bible class lessons.

Now as soon as services are over people gather in groups and talk about school, politics, the weather, travel, etc. None of these things are improper speech by any means, but weren't we more spiritually minded back then when the Bible and its teachings were our main focus? (Colossians 3:1; Philippians 4:8).

I remember a time when it was commonplace to hear someone say, *"I was reading in my Bible the other day*

*about....,"* and then a discussion would break out about that Bible text or theme. Now, I mostly hear: *"I was looking on Facebook the other day and saw..."* Does this not indicate a basic shift in the way Christians think these days? The reason why Christians used to talk about the Bible so much is because they read the Bible all of the time. There wasn't a day that went by without reading the Bible. Now, I would imagine most Christians would confess that there are days when their Bible is never opened, but they never go more than an hour without checking Facebook or Twitter for new posts. Isn't reading the

Bible where our faith comes from? (Romans 10:17; Ephesians 5:17; 3:3-4).

I remember a time when Christians condemned gossip and talebearing because they are sins (1 Timothy 5:13; 2 Thessalonians 3:11). Now, it is not uncommon to hear Christians talking about what they saw about other Christians on social media. Sometimes they express shock when they talk with a third party about what some second party posted on Facebook or Twitter.

I remember a time when Christians loved to hear sermons on first principles, meaty doctrinal discussions, the one true church, and the reproof and rebuke of sin and error. Preachers were encouraged to “*Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and doctrine*” (2 Timothy 4:2). Now many Christians are afraid to invite visitors to services because the preacher might mention denominationalism in his sermon. Some preachers are even being told that sermons should be shortened and lightened because today’s

generations are only interested in what is the length and depth of the average social media posts.

I remember a time when Christians expressed fear and concern over the lost spiritual condition of friends and neighbors (Romans 1:14; Matthew 28:19; 1 Corinthians 9:19-22). Now, it seems like Christians are more concerned that their friends and neighbors don’t wear masks. Believe it or not, it is possible for a person to never don a mask and still never get the Coronavirus. That statement would be considered blasphemy in some circles today. *But, one thing is certain:* no one who has not had his sins washed away can enter the kingdom of heaven. Sin is a 100 % killer of men’s souls (Romans 6:23). What happened to Christian’s fear for lost souls?

I remember a time when Christians would vow that should the government ever be so bold as to interfere with churches and prevent their ability to worship that churches would meet for worship anyway. The reason brethren gave for such a strong stand was a simple one: “*We must*

*obey God rather than men*” (Acts 5:29). But in the last six months we have seen churches rush to shutter meeting houses because of state governors’ “stay at home orders.” No law was ever passed, no state of martial law was ever declared, and yet churches across the land shut down services for months on end. Never mind that Christians are smart and sensible people, and they are perfectly capable of meeting together and implementing safety procedures to lessen the likelihood of spreading sickness among them. There has been much debate about this among brethren, but as of today, many churches are still in shutdown mode across the country.

I don’t mean to overplay this point, because I do realize there is a pandemic going on out there. But, I can’t help but wonder what saints in the first century would have done had the Romans said churches must stop meeting together for any reason. What do you think the first century brethren would have done? The answer is not too hard to ascertain, because they gave their answer: “*We must obey God rather than*

*men.*”

I remember a time when Christians placed their hope in Christ (1 Corinthians 15:19; Philippians 1:20; Colossians 1:27). Nowadays it seems clear that most Christians place their hope in Republicans or Democrats. I certainly realize that as citizens of the United States of America, we have the unique privilege of voting for the person who will lead us every four years as president. We choose our representatives by popular vote. This is a wonderful thing.

But, brethren, no human government will ever save anyone’s soul. No government of men will ever truly care about the spiritual welfare of its citizens, let alone what happens to the church of Christ. We would do well to remember that we who are Christians are citizens of the kingdom of God. Our King is Jesus Christ (Daniel 7:13-14; 1 Timothy 1:17; Revelation 17:14).

These are a few of the things I remember from a time not that long ago. I lament the changes that have occurred. Don’t you?